

# BeerPoint

**BeerPoint** is a system whereby members of the Isle of Wight branch of the Campaign for Real Ale can recommend pubs that they have recently visited and found the beer to be of a good standard.

The system is providing a useful tool in highlighting good (or bad) practice.

**BeerPoint** is administered by our chairman John Nicholson who can be contacted via [editor@wightwash.org.uk](mailto:editor@wightwash.org.uk)

Here is a list of our current **Recommended BeerPoint** pubs by area:

## North:

Horseshoe, Northwood; Traveller's Joy, Northwood; Prince of Wales, East Cowes; Ship and Castle, East Cowes; Anchor, Cowes; Union, Cowes; Fountain, Cowes; Duke of York, Cowes; Kingston Arms, Cowes.

## East & North East:

Dark Horse, Brading; Vine, St Helens; Ye Old Village Inn, Bembridge; Propeller, Bembridge; Simeon Arms, Ryde; Swan's Nest, Ryde; Castle, Ryde; King Lud, Ryde; Fowler & Co, Ryde; High Park Tavern, Ryde; Lake Huron, Ryde.

## Central:

White Lion, Arreton; Crown, Shorwell; Three Bishops, Brighstone; Chequers, Rookley; Four Seasons, Wroxall; Pointer Inn, Newchurch; Prince of Wales, Newport; Old Stag, Newport; Newport Ale House; William Coppin, Newport; Waverley, Carisbrooke.

## South and South East:

Spyglass, Ventnor; Bonchurch Inn; Buddle, Niton; Chine Inn, Shanklin; King Harry's, Shanklin; Waterfront, Shanklin; Crab and Lobster Tap, Ventnor; Volunteer, Ventnor; White Lion, Niton; Old Comical, Sandown; Castle Inn, Sandown; Tap, Sandown.

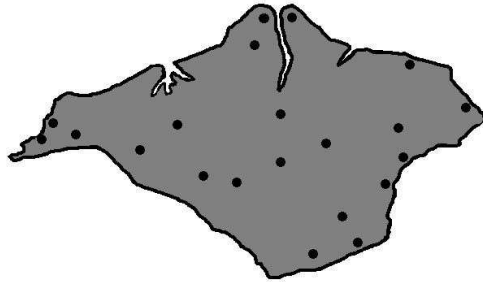
## West:

Saltys, Yarmouth; Prince of Wales, Freshwater; Vine, Freshwater; Red Lion, Freshwater; Sun, Calbourne; Broadway, Totland;

Please check the website for an up-to-date list

[www.wightwash.org.uk](http://www.wightwash.org.uk)  
and click on "BEER POINT"

The views expressed in Wightwash are not necessarily those of the editor or CAMRA (the Campaign for Real Ale) either nationally or locally.



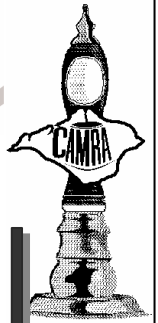
# Wightwash

Volume 2, Number 49

Newsletter of the Isle of Wight branch of CAMRA

## Autumn Issue 2011

The Campaign for Real Ale exists to preserve and promote good beer and pubs.



## RDA Is On It's Way

(with a little help from John)

It was a 7 o'clock start for John Nicholson, our famous branch Chairman (he likes us to call him that), when he helped his friend Chris Coleman, Head Brewer of **Island Ales**, with a new batch of the acclaimed **Rich Dark Ale (RDA)**.

This "stout" style of beer is brewed and then stored for as long as possible. Chris and John will probably have to wait until Autumn 2012 before they can taste the results of their efforts.



For more news about this and our other Island breweries, see **News and Gossip** on page three.



Wightwash can be contacted by phone 721557 or email [editor@wightwash.org.uk](mailto:editor@wightwash.org.uk)

[www.GoddardsBrewery.co.uk](http://www.GoddardsBrewery.co.uk)

### Is Retrospective Discount an unfair trading practice?

The licensed trade industry is much the same as many; suppliers are keen to promote loyalty from the retailer and customer. This can come in many forms and one is a system know as "retrospective discounting" or A.O.D. ("Advance on Discount").

"Retrospective Discount" is a system where a product (in this case, a barrel of beer) is sold to the retailer (in this case, the landlord) at a basic price, but if at the end of a period targets are met, there are rewards. Rewards can include back-dated discount and gifts. An alternative view could be that the goods are sold at an artificially inflated price which is corrected at a later date if certain criteria is met.

#### Disadvantages to Wholesaler

none

#### Advantages to Wholesaler

Interest free loan

By adjusting the rewards, the retailer can be encouraged to "push" certain products.

#### Disadvantages to Retailer

Difficult to calculate how to price a product. May have to decide to remove rival products.

#### Advantages to Retailer

Cash back at the end of a period. Gifts like bar towels, glasses and table umbrellas.

#### Disadvantages to Customer

Higher prices

Lack of choice

#### Advantages to Customer

Um, well none really.

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### Win a £20 Meal Voucher for the Chequers Inn or a case of Yates' Ales

Just answer these easy questions. The first two correct answers out of the hat on 1st November win the prizes.

Send answers to - The Editor, Wightwash, Oakdene, Rookley, Ventnor, PO38 3NH or email - editor@wightwash.org.uk

- 1/ Who was the Captain of the Titanic when it sank?
- 2/ In which musical would you hear the song "Bring Him Home"?
- 3/ In what part of the body would you find the anvil and stirrup?
- 4/ Steve Jobs has just resigned as CEO from which company?
- 5/ Which Greek dessert is made from filo pastry, chopped nuts and honey?
- 6/ In song, which jovial character "lived in the sand in the Isle of Man"?
- 7/ What is the lightest of all the elements and has the atomic number 1?
- 8/ What is the capital of Bulgaria?
- 9/ and 10/ Name these two racing car drivers.

9



10



#### Answers to the Summer Quiz:

- 1/ The Pope 2/ Bristol 3/ Yamaha
- 4/ Lady Gaga 5/ Jensen Button
- 6/ Toilets 7/ Danny Briggs
- 8/ Potato 9/ Fullers 10/ Wychwood

David Prince of St Helens wins a £20 meal voucher and Barry Davis of Seaview wins a case of Yates' beers. Thank you to all the others that took part.

A true locals pub where visitors are always made welcome

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# Spitbank Fort

Spitbank Fort is one of four defensive installations in the Solent which can be seen from the Island. It is more or less due north of Ryde, close to the entrance to Portsmouth harbour and is most impressive when viewed from the cross Solent ferry.



This fort was built in 1878 as part of an arc of defences against a feared attack by the forces of Emperor Napoleon 3rd of France who had built a formidable navy and whose army had recently won battles against Austria. Commissioned by Lord Palmerston as prime minister the forts were never needed. Attacks did not materialise and with hindsight the vast expense involved in the construction earned the forts the epithet "Palmerston's Follies".

Water supply to the fort presented no problem to the garrison as a well some 400 feet deep had been dug to reach a suitable fresh supply. Massively armed it carried some fifteen guns of various sizes. Later the armament was increased to include some huge 12 inch muzzle loading guns of the type on view outside of Calbourne mill. This may have been as a counter to the threat posed by the revolutionary steam powered , iron hulled French warship, La Gloire.

In 1982 the fort was sold by the Ministry and as a privately owned site it hosted a number of different ventures including a television series featuring Jeremy Beadle.

In 2009 it was acquired by new owners as a holiday destination and is currently advertised as a luxury retreat



Rob Marshall

From Paul Mattick

## Goddards Brewery

Managing Director and Head Brewer **Richard Harvey** recently told me that **Goddards** celebrated their **18<sup>th</sup> Birthday** on 1<sup>st</sup> May. Although it was very low key they gave Associate Director **Babs Mitchell** the bumps, but had to give up at 13!

I remember the day well in 1993. Along with many other publicans across the Island I was invited to the official opening of what has now become a thriving Island Brewery. And a great day it was too- I still have remnants of the hangover I acquired. I look forward to maybe being a part of the 21<sup>st</sup> bash in 2014 guys?

When I arrived at the brewery this time round Richard had been working since 5am on a brew of **Hoppiness** which hit the pubs in June but is all but sold out now though you might find the last squeeze of it in some drinking holes.

Another thing I noticed on my arrival was how big a business the Barnsley Farm actually is. There were crates/pallets of bottled beers ready to go which reached the ceilings of the hanger-like store. When I commented on how impressive it looked, I was immediately shot down in flames. "That's only a third of it" said Richard "the rest went out at the beginning of the week"!



## Join CAMRA Today



Just fill in the form below and send, with a cheque (payable to CAMRA Ltd) to  
Membership Secretary, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road,  
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Rates are Single £22 Partner at same address £27  
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I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and I agree to abide by its rules.

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As soon as **Hoppiness**, which is now as rare as a good looking woman on The Jeremy Kyle Show runs out, the seasonal and anagrammatic **Duck's Folly** will be back for a period followed by **Winter Warmer** (5.2%) from October. With Christmas looming, I wouldn't be at all surprised if **Pie-eyed** (4.5%) made its return for the festive season.

Stock is now being built up for the autumn and winter, and I noticed a new mash tun ready to be installed. Mainland orders are flourishing, Richard thinks there is plenty more potential on the mainland and is looking into it. Summer months for Goddards has been fantastic, this is probably the same for all of our breweries due to a not so warm summer- this is the time of year when people tend to drink chilled beers like cider and lager (excuse my language!) Apart from the usual [www.GoddardsBrewery.co.uk](http://www.GoddardsBrewery.co.uk) check out any news on the **Goddards Facebook** page.

**STOP PRESS**  
Goddards have been supplying a massive amount of **Scrumdiggy** to the Bestival. 96 barrels of the beer reflagged as **Best-of-Ale** was delivered on the first day!



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*Here's John's Brewery Report from*  
**The Island Brewery**

Roll out the barrel, Island Brewery are here. Roll out the barrel, at least that has been the theme song so far this year! Following the unprecedented launch success, demand has continued to grow at a level and pace totally underestimated by Island Ales, given all their expertise and experience in the market. Across the range, all the beers have been acclaimed by aficionado and casual drinker alike; selling out at Island festivals. In fact, Sail for Gold were so impressed with the quality product being sold at Island Ales real ale bar, opposite their major beer tent on The Parade at Cowes Week, that they are interested in

# The Castle Inn

*"A proper local pub!"*

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Come along to our famous **Halloween Beer Festival** 21st - 28th October

*In this issue we have a double helping of Ron's recommendations. Due to the rather chaotic circumstances that the Summer Issue was produced, we held Ron's first article over.*

## Perks of Ventnor

It has been my own custom to celebrate St George's Day, even if simply wearing the rose. In the last 35 years I've missed only a few - when I was abroad, or, if a Sunday, I couldn't find a shop to purchase a rose! Two years ago, my wife and I, and a good friend of ours, spent the evening at the Winter Gardens, where Graham Perks had arranged a special night. There was a great group of people there, including some Morris Dancers!

Last year and this year, we were able to partake again of some excellent food and ale at **Perks of Ventnor**, at 46 High Street. The atmosphere was truly convivial, a super party spirit, and a real St George's Night feel, and at a good value price, too. We have already put our reservation in for next year. Don't miss it!

It's proving a really popular venue for good food and ale during the rest of the year, too, don't forget!



## King Harry's Bar

As regular readers of Wightwash will know, not only do I enjoy good real ale, but I also relish a good, blue steak! Recently, Alana and I decided to try Henry VIII's kitchen in Shanklin old village. True to the style of the Tudor period, any gourmet would delight in the menu on offer - truly a King's meal!

My choice was the **Wenches I** from the Tower menu. A 16 oz fillet steak, cooked to perfection by Nicola! I must confess it was the largest steak I have ever eaten, and it was superb! Oh, and I did finish it - nothing was left on the plate!

Alana also had the fillet, but she chickened out of the full one pounder, and tackled the 1/2 pounder!

King Harry's Bar, of course, always has excellent ales on draught, and is a cosy, friendly pub in the old village. Thanks to Nicola, Clive and Mike, and the rest of the staff.

As a footnote, the old "beat group" I was in during the mid-1960s got together at Harry's on 18th of August for a reunion gig. The first we'd all played together since 1965. It was a nostalgic evening, and thoroughly enjoyed by band and customers alike.

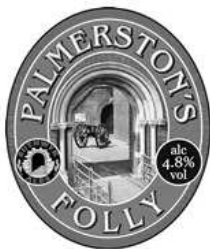


*Ron Bird*

I've recently been to Kent but I spent so much time visiting castles at Dover, Deal, and Walmer, museums, cathedral, and churches, I did not get much pub time in! We did revisit **The Ship Centurion** at Whistable. Unfortunately it was the landlords day off, however the beer was good and the atmosphere great.



The **Wetherspoons** at Dover, Canterbury, and Margate had good beer and food.



On the way back in the shadow of Portsdown Hill we stopped at a small brewery at Southwick where I got a four pack containing- **Old Dick** 3.8%, **Skew Sunshine Ale** 4.6%, **Palmerston's Folly** 5.0% and **Liberation Ale** 4.2% all very drinkable and CAMRA says these are real ales. Website [www.suthwykales.com](http://www.suthwykales.com).

Visited the Great British Beer Festival along with a few friends and I was most impressed with the wide variety of beer on offer. My favourite was **Brains' The Young Reverend** (son of The Reverend James I guess) and the food available was amazing catering for all tastes and pockets. All in all a great day out.



Incidentally, Sue, landlady at The Portland, Gurnard told me if you show your CAMRA membership card she will give a 10 pence discount on a pint of beer.

*Pete Cobb*

### Gary Recommends

#### The Talbot, Oxfordshire

While we were on our travels to the CLA Game Fair at Blenheim Palace Oxford, we found a gem of a place to stay - **The Talbot Inn** at Eynsham.

It's an **Arkels** pub the beer being dispensed from barrels behind the bar. They had three beers on offer:- **2B** at 3.2% abv, **3B** at 4% abv and the excellent **Kingsdown** at 5% abv. They were all deserving 5 out of 5.

The pub is a family run village inn, the food was very good and reasonably priced and the locals were very friendly.

If you go that way, it is one to stop at.

Also worth a visit is the **Hand and Shears** at Churchhamburgh.

*Gary Daish*



taking a selection of Island Brewery's choice real ales with them to feature at other venues.

The steady increase in demand and sales, doubling over the year, is true testament to the brewing skills of Chris Coleman, Head Brewer. So much so, that plans are now in place to increase the number of brewing vessels, in an expansion of the brewery, and take on an assistant brewer in the new year.

Also, Island Brewery's launch of bottled beer, and the triple selection pack, has been very successful with local fans and visitors. Who wonders such excellence in style and variety could ever be achieved with just four basic ingredients (and finings, and torrified wheat, the inclusion of which is, technically, for students of Germany, Reinheitsgebot compliant - why is there so little crime in Germany? Answer: because it's against the law!).

*Thanks John and we look forward to tasting the fruits of your labour (see front page) when RDA reappears in our pubs.*

#### Here's Lorraine's Yates' Report

As reported in the spring issue the Brewery supplied three barrels of **Yule Be Sorry** and three barrels of **Holy Joe** for the bar at the Great British Beer Festival. Both were received with great reviews.

David (Snr) tells me that the brewery was asked to brew a beer for the Botanic Gardens, Ventnor using hops grown at the garden. Chris, the Head Gardener has called the beer **TropicAle** and at 5% abv should be very good. Chris has also designed the bottle labels. The beer will be on sale

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at the Botanic Garden's shop but should also be available in some pubs. Look out for it, it's another Island beer to try! Another great piece of news is the brewery has just ordered two fifteen barrel fermenters which will more than double the

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**National Cask Ale Week 2011  
October 1st to 9th**

This is a national week of action run in conjunction with Cask Marque to encourage more people to try real ale, and encourage more pubs to stock it. As a primary theme, publicans will be urged to promote a 'Try Before You Buy' policy, an initiative designed to encourage drinkers to sample real ale. If your pub is holding a Cask Ale Week event, please let us know and we'll list it on the Wightwash website. [www.wightwash.org.uk](http://www.wightwash.org.uk)

brewery size enabling them to keep up with the heavy demand for all of the beers. The summer trade was markedly up and everyone at the Brewery is looking forward to a busy autumn and winter. Coming soon another beer swap; this time with Milestone and Gadds' breweries.

*Thank you Lorraine*

Looking back on the last three reports, isn't incredible that during this so called recession, all three Island breweries are flourishing. Well, that's the Isle of Wight for you - bucking the trend!

Look out for a couple of **Beer Festivals** at new venues. **Rookley Country Park** are holding one between 30th September and 2nd October. This coincides with National Cask Ale week (see box). As well as the two regular beers (**Yachtsman** and **Bombardier**) there will be a further eight on stillage. The names of these beers are still under wraps but as Island Ales are supplying them, it's safe to assume that there will be a couple from them. There will be live music and a discount voucher scheme.

A couple of weeks later and you

will be able to visit **The Prince of Wales** first Ale Festival. Landlady Ruth says she hopes that it will not only encourage drinkers to visit her pub but also other Newport establishments as well. Ales will include **Timothy Taylor's Landlord**, **Hogs Back TEA**, **Jenning's Cocker Hoop** and **Harviestoun's Schiehallion**

**The Castle Inn**, Sandown will be holding their annual Halloween Beer Festival be-

**The Broadway Inn**  
& Totland Bay Post Office

*Traditional family run Freehouse*

**Brass Monkey Rolling Beer Festival**  
*taking place from*

**Halloween Night to Firework Night**

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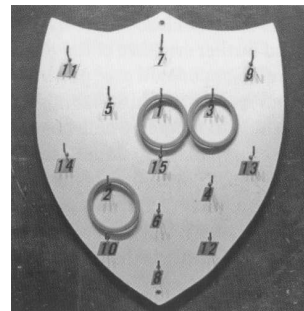
*See our website or join us on Facebook for a list of ales that will be available.*

*Be there or the Pumpkin man will get you!!*

[www.thebroadwayinn.co.uk](http://www.thebroadwayinn.co.uk)  
01983 755 333

Research issued at the Great British Beer Festival suggests the return of traditional pub games would encourage more young adults to visit pubs. Here we look at a game popular in the pubs of Ventnor. For more details on other traditional pub games have a look at: [www.tradgames.org.uk/features/pub-games.htm](http://www.tradgames.org.uk/features/pub-games.htm)

# Rings



Before it was superceded by darts, rings was arguably the most popular game in English and Irish pubs. Now it only has two strongholds in England, Essex and Ventnor. It was Irish workers at the Ford factory at Dagenham who reintroduced the game to Essex and it is thought that Irish labourers brought over to dig railway tunnels during the 1860's were responsible for bringing it to Ventnor.

Apart from the sheer simplicity of the rules, the equipment is cheap, the rings themselves are quite harmless in a crowded bar, and all ages can have a go.

The Essex and Isle of Wight version of the game differs in several small ways, The Essex board has 13 curved hooks, whilst the IOW version has 15 "L" shaped hooks which is said to make the game a little easier. The throwing distance however is slightly longer on the Island at 9 feet.

If your are interested in playing rings, or want to find out more, just visit the Ventnor pub of your choice!

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A black and white illustration of a man in a military-style uniform, including a hat and a long coat. He is standing and playing a trumpet. The illustration is positioned on the right side of the advertisement.

When Shirley and Liv, landlords of the **Four Seasons** in Wroxall, wanted to encourage newcomers to the village to visit the pub, they came up with an idea of a Games Session. Cupboards were raided and memories delved. Some regulars recommended games that they'd enjoyed in the past and offered to act as teachers. The "Pro/Am Evenings" (Pros are the old hands and Ams are the novices) have been very successful. Dominoes, Backgammon, Crib have all been played but the real triumph has been Rings. Why Rings? Because *Rings is fun* (perhaps that ought to be "Rings **are** fun"). If you want a fun evening playing games, the next Games night at the Four Seasons will be on Monday October 3rd. All welcome from 18 upwards. Phone the Four Season on 854701 for details, or pop in for a pint!

**LATEST**  
The Four Seasons will be entering a Rings team in the league this winter.

Any young person contemplating using false ID should be aware that the Identity Documents Act 2010 makes it an offence, without reasonable excuse, to have possession of any immigration document, passport or driving licence which is either false, improperly obtained, or which relates to someone else. Further, Section 173 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 provides offences of using or possessing a driving licence with intent to deceive. Anyone who lends their driving licence to another for the purpose of deception will be guilty of an offence under the same section. In short, if you have false ID or use it to obtain either admission or alcohol you could be arrested.

**Learning to Drink Responsibly**

While the law prescribes that it can never be lawful to sell alcohol to a person under 18 years, it is permissible for a child aged 16 or over to consume beer, wine or cider on licensed premises with a table meal. The purchase must be made by an adult in every case.

Understandably, some licensees are reluctant to allow any consumption whatsoever by minors on their premises. They may, however, be missing a trick, as these young people are the customers of tomorrow. I think that, with careful supervision, this exception to the Licensing Act is an acceptable opportunity for under-18s to be introduced to alcohol in a limited and controlled manner and to learn the merits of responsible drinking.

With the guidance of adults, young people can learn the protocols of drinking in company, also how to measure and limit their consumption. Under supervision they may experience (in the mildest of forms) the effects alcohol can have on the body and the mind. Hopefully this pub experience will cement in the mind of a young person an association of alcohol with restraint, moderate behaviour and sociability. This sounds a tad utopian- yes I do realise that many parents or supervisors of children are imperfect role-models- but the alternative for so many young people is drinking in the park and gaining knowledge of 'safe limits' from their mates.

For many, the first experiences of alcohol will have been negative and secretive, perhaps leading to a lasting association of alcohol with the illicit. Licensees, parents and the authorities should therefore recognise the social benefits of drinking, working together to provide safe and supervised drinking environments for customers of all (legal) ages.

Mark Voller  
Licensing Sergeant



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tween 21st and 28th October and the **Broadway**, Totland will host their **Brass Monkey Rolling Beer Festival** from "Halloween to Firework Night".

Looks like some of the more fastidious aspects of the 2003 Licensing Act will be curbed relating to live music. I remember well an incident when a well meaning person was threatened with six months imprisonment and a £20,000 fine for planning to run an unlicensed event - a brass band on the village green! The problem was that the village green in question did not have a premises licence. Tourism and Heritage Minister John Penrose is to unveil a proposal which will state that pubs and clubs that wish to offer live music needn't have

to apply for an entertainment licence, potentially saving "on average" £1,600 per year.

**Alan of the yard** came to the Island in the summer and told me of a great little bus tour he took. The "Open Top Downs Tour" (the one that goes to **Robin Hill**) is ideal if you fancy a tour of your own to the many drinking establishments en route. Primarily you pay for a ticket (like a Rover ticket) and you can get on or off wherever there's a bus stop. Pubs included and in no particular order are:

**Hare and Hounds, Pointer Inn, White Lion, Dairyman's Daughter, Sloop** (cheap dinner too), **Cedars, Woodman Arms**, all central Brading pubs and the **Ponda Rosa**.

At the time of going to press, The **Holliers, Shanklin** is now serving real ale (Fuggle) and **Yarbridge Inn** is open and serving food. The **Solent Inn** Ryde has a barrage of beers, some of which are a rarity on the Island. Food is also worth a mention - Reasonable Roasts on Sundays and Steak Nights every Saturday with a great friendly atmosphere thrown in for nuffink

That's it for me 'til next time.

Paul







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**Rookley Country Park Beer Festival**

30th September- 2nd October

**Branch Meeting**

Wednesday 12th October 8.30  
Three Bishops, Brighstone

**Prince of Wales, Newport Beer Festival**

15th - 17th October

**Castle Inn, Sandown Halloween Beer Festival**

21st - 28th October

**Broadway Inn, Totland Brass Monkey**

**Rolling Beer Festival**  
Halloween to Firework Night

**Branch Meeting**

Wednesday 9th November 8.30  
Horseshoe Inn, Northwood

**IOW CAMRA XMAS Social**

Friday 16th December  
TBC

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Victoria and Simon look forward to seeing you soon!

[www.crabandlobstertap.org.uk](http://www.crabandlobstertap.org.uk)

**IOW CAMRA AGM**

Friday January 27th 2012 8.00  
Traveller's Joy, Northwood

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or email [editor@wightwash.org.uk](mailto:editor@wightwash.org.uk)



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the bar, but they are essential to protect young people and to ensure a safer drinking environment for others.

But what forms of ID are acceptable? The answer to this is now prescribed by the Licensing Act. Three elements must be present on any document presented as ID, these being the photograph and date of birth of the person presenting it, also a hologram. For these reasons the dog-eared birth certificate is no longer ok, but photocard driving licences, passports and PASS cards will do. A word of caution though: passports and driving licences are routinely issued to under-18s so careful checking is essential. Police feel licensees can have more confidence in the PASS cards, which are bespoke 'proof of age' documents, subject of a rigorous checking process. We are also aware that PASS-logo holograms are protected by copyright and cannot be forged.

In a night's work licensees and door staff will be shown the odd forged, stolen, borrowed or altered ID document. We are not aware of a specific legal power for civilians, including door staff, to seize documents, but, realistically, these tend to fall into their hands, and some pubs have acquired a small 'rogues gallery' of fake documents. We advise licensees to return genuine documents to the issuing authority, and documents which appear to be forged may be handed to local police.

Police have been handed many photo-cards purporting to be, for example, 'International Driving Permit,' 'European Identity Card', or 'International Motorcycle Permit.' (The UK National Identity Card, although initially available, has now been withdrawn and cannot be used - sorry Tony.) These cards can appear genuine at first sight, having a photograph, date of birth and something akin to a hologram, but we know many are fake because, in reality, no such documents were ever legally issued. The young people who buy these simulated cards over the internet are simply being conned.



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**A Question of Identity**

The 'proof' of age is an increasingly important issue for retailers and purchasers of alcohol. In earlier decades it was acceptable for the youthful-looking customer to produce a somewhat smudged, dog-eared birth certificate as 'proof' of being over the legal age to buy and enjoy alcohol. Having convinced a bar man to sell half a pint of lager and lime the customer might have retreated to a dark recess of the bar to drink it- well away from the gaze of the landlord and any risk of further challenge! I hope that didn't sound too autobiographical!



Nowadays licensees are under pressure to check customer ID before selling alcohol to anyone remotely youthful. By law, every alcohol-retailer must have a policy to prevent underage sales, and many have opted for 'Challenge 21' requiring anyone appearing to be under that age to prove he or she is over 18. Other licensees prefer an even stricter code eg 'Challenge 25', although this higher standard tends to be more common in shops than pubs. As part of an 'underage sales' policy staff may be required to record all sales refusals and to receive regular training from a supervisor.

Landlords now have an incentive to check age rigorously- It's called licence preservation! Any member of staff who sells alcohol to an underage person risks a prosecution or at least a fixed penalty notice (currently £80). The 'persistent sale' of alcohol to under-18s can result in a police order prohibiting the sale of alcohol for up to 48 hours or the prosecution of the licensee for that offence. For these purposes, 'persistent' means just two sales in a period of 3 months. To add to the woes of licensees, authorities might also call for a review of the

premises licence, particularly where staff training, record-keeping and supervision regimes are found wanting.

Younger customers should co-operate with 'proof of age' checks and be ready to show ID before each and every purchase. We accept that these checks may cause inconvenience and can slow the speed of transactions at

Chris and Wendy welcome you to...

**THE PRINCE OF WALES**  
**FRESHWATER**  
 for good company and six real ales!  
 (including Yates' IOW ales)  
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It's always nice to get complimentary letters. Recently I have received two:-

The first one came in the form of an email.

*I can't speak highly enough of The Broadway Inn Totland. I was on the hunt for a pub lunch which also had a big screen to watch the world championships. My parents are vegetarian but the menu obliged with a selection of jacket potatoes and various fillings. I myself had a tasty full English breakfast which sorted me out for the rest of the day. We were then treated to ringside seats as the huge 42 inch plasma was fired up. Definitely a pub well worth a visit.*

Dave Degen

The second came through the post. We don't have room to reproduce all of it but here's some excerpts.

*Thank you for your supply of Wightwash...it is with great interest that I read the "News and Gossip" pages to see what each brewery is up to... As a lover of the dark side, it was with great relish that I read John Nicholson's wonderful description of "The glorious Earls (Island Brewery) RDA stout". It certainly made my mouth water...We are blessed in this part of the country with Bathams, Holders, Ma Pardoes, Sadlers, Sarah Hughes, Hobsons, Church End, Beowulf. All produce a mild and various other wonderful dark ales. The Wellington in Birmingham is the place where I "recycle" my Wightwash. They have a corner with various publications from other CAMRA branches, which I pick up to read and leave my "Wightwash" for others to enjoy.*

*Thanks again,*

Tony Seymond

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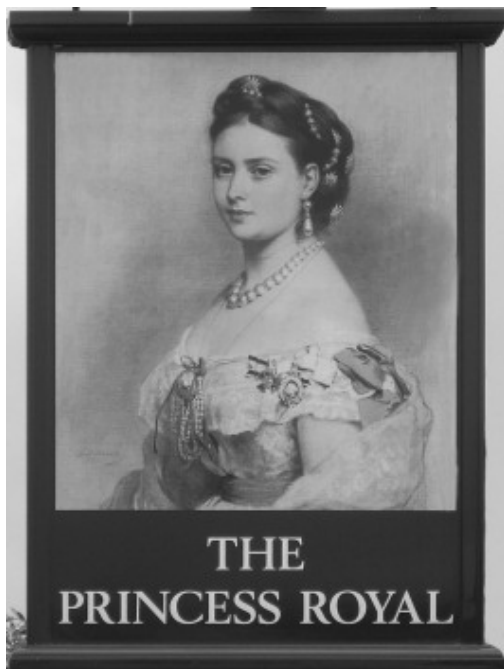
## Princess Royal

Since taking over the pub in Dec 2010 Nigel and Christine have worked hard to make **The Princess Royal** a traditional local pub that Newport can be proud of.

It became apparent quite early on that regrettably there was insufficient demand to warrant barrels of real ale on hand pump; however Nigel and Christine have come up with a novel solution - as well as having a polypin of **Goddard's Ales** behind the bar, they scour the Island for interesting and tasty bottled beers. In fact, they probably have the best selection of bottled beers of any Island pub. All the beers are very competitively priced, so if you find one you like, you can always take a couple home for later.

Much has been invested in the interior and exterior of the pub including a beautiful new pub sign. It is hoped to add Mew Langton memorabilia to the decor as a tribute to the pub's history.

Nigel has a passion for old pub games so apart from the usual darts and pool (cheapest table on the Island so I'm told) you will find:- bar billiards, bar skittles, shove ha'penny, a penny table, dominoes, a crib board, bagatelle and a host of children's puzzles.



One myth was quickly dismissed. I thought that Rings was confined to Ventnor. Not at all! The Princess Royal has two Ring boards:- an Isle of Wight Rings board which has 15 rings and an Essex Rings board with only 13. (As a result of this revelation, I decided to make more enquiries. Please see page 15). If anyone knows where you can get an "Aunt Sally" as featured in a recent Midsomer Murders or a "Toad in the Hole", please get in touch with Nigel.



Not surprisingly, there are several games teams at the pub. On Monday the darts team meet to play, on Tuesday it's Shove Ha'penny, Wednesday sees Petanque in the summer and hopefully crib during the winter, and the two pool teams battle it out in the Cowes and District League on Thursdays. All teams would welcome new members, especially the darts team who would like to start a ladies side. There is a quiz every other Sunday. Bar snacks are available and Christine plans to re-start the Sunday lunches to warm you up during the cold winter months.

Plans for the future include Christmas Parties, the repeat of the Bangas and Beer weekend which will take place in the spring and an attempt to regain the pub's "Best Pub in Bloom" award.

This is a smashing little pub and deserves our support.

For more details, including a very interesting history of the pub, please visit the website.

[www.theprincessroyaliow.co.uk](http://www.theprincessroyaliow.co.uk)

*Tim Marshall*



# PRINCE OF WALES

## NEWPORT

# Beer Festival



**Friday 15th, Saturday 16th, Sunday 17th October From 10.30am til late**

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# Real Ale

## festival

Friday 30th September  
Saturday 1st October  
Sunday 2nd October



- Free entry and parking
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- 2 Regular real ales
- Live Music
- Try 4 ales for £10 voucher